and achievements with special emphasis on programmes and dissemination of information relating to developmental activities in all their facets;

(ii) To devise and present suitable programmes aimed at the youth, rural population, minority communities, women, children as well as other weaker and vulnerable sections of the society.

(iii) To disseminate information, news and comments in a fair, objective and balanced manner including contrasting points of view with emphasis on events and development.

(c) Besides strengthening the transmission facilities in Jammu and Kashmir, Akashvani and Doordarshan through their news bulletins and other programmes, constantly counter any wrong news, broadcast by foreign radio television network, aimed at our country by presenting in their proper prespective.

Crisis in indigenous newsprint industry

135. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after allowing duty free import of newsprint the indigenous newsprint industry is in doldrums;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the big newspaper establishments are violating the norms prescribed for importing newsprint and not purchasing the prescribed indigenous newsprint; and

(d) if so, what action Government propose to take to save the indigenous newspaper industry from closure and ensure that newspapers do purchase the prescribed quantities of indigenous newsprint?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) Representations have been received from the Indian Newsprint Manufacturers' Association and newsprint mills stating inter alia that due to their lower scale of production, higher cost of inputs, obsolete technology, higher energy consumption and lower recovery etc. they cannot compete with imported newsprint which is brought in on duty free basis.

(c) and (d) Big newspapers with annual entitlement of more than 200 MTs of standard newsprint are allowed to import any quantity of newsprint on the condition that for every two MTs of indigenously produced newsprint purchaed by them from the scheduled mills, they can import one MT of standard newsprint. Entitlement certificates for procurement of newsprint are issued to only those newspapers who submit returns indicating the quantity of newsprint imported and purchased from the scheduled indigenous newsprint mills during the previous year duly certified by Chartered Accountants to the effect that 2:1 formula has been complied with. Therefore, there is ordinarily no scope for violating the condition prescribed for import of newsprint.

Transmission and distribution loss loss of power

136. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that international average of transmission and distribution loss of power ranges between 10 to 12 percent whereas it is 20 to 39 percent in the country;

(b) the break-up of transmission and distribution losses, State-wise, during the last three years;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Rajyadaksha Committee on power had suggested that such losses should not exceed 16 percent;

(d) if so, what steps are being contemplated to bring down the losses to this level; and

(e) whether any action has been taken in this regard and if so, the results achieved, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement indicating state wise Transmission and Distribution losses for the years 1990-91 to 1992-93 is enclosed) (*See* below).

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) and (e) Comprehensive guidelines have been issued by Central Electricity Authority to the power utilities for reducing Transmission and Distribution Losses. These include conducting of Energy Audit for identifying system elements responsible for excessive losses installing capacitors to improve the voltage profile, preparation of system improvement schemes for strengthening and improvement of the systems, installing tamper-proof meter boxes, intensifying surprise raids and launching prosecutions against the persons found indulging in theft of energy. The theft of energy has been made a cognizable offence from August 1986 under the provision of Section-39 of Indian Electricity Act, 1910. An incentive scheme was also introduced by the Government among the State Electricity Boards|Electricity Departments from the year 1987 for bringing about education in transmission and distribution losses. In the Power Ministers conference held in January 1993, a resolution was passed to reduce Transmission and Distribution losses by 1 percent per annum during the entire period of Eighth Plan. As a result of concerted efforts made by the State Electricity Boards|Electricity Departments, a reduction of 1.03 percent has been achieved in the year 1992-93 as compared to the previous year.

Statement

Percentage transformation, transmission and distribution losses (inlcuding Commercial losses such as pilferage etc. in States|U..T's)

Region	Sate/U.T.O	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
1	2	3	4	5
NORTHERN REGION	1. Haryana	27.49	26.79	26.79
	2. Himachal Pradesh	20.94	19.01	19.98
	3. Jammu & Kashmir	42.96	50.08	48.13
	4. Punjab	19.26	21.70	19.61
	5. Rajasthan	25.76	23.07	22.71
	6. Uttar Pradesh	27.11	26.14	24.68
	7. Chandigarh	23.72	29.64	26.21
	8. Delhi	24.90	24.66	24.02
	9. BBMB	4.43	4.36	2

1	2	3	4	5
WESTERN REGION	1. Gujarat	23.44	23.56	22.20
	2. Madhya Pradesh	17.98	25.82	22.52
	3. Maharashtra	18.26	18.61	18.51
	4. D&N Haveli	17.69	19.66	17.98
	5. Goa	24.97	25.70	21.80
	6. Daman & Diu	16.85	15.90	15.67
SOUTHERN REGION	1. Andhra Pradesh	22.93	20.05	20.65
	2. Karnataka	20.17	19.93	19.62
	3. Kerala	22.66	22.47	22.77
	4. Tamil Nadu	17.98	18.44	17.30
	5. Lakshadweep Isls.	18.62	17.43	18.72
	6. Pondicherry	19.20	18.00	15.31
EASTERN REGION	1. Bihar	16.47	18.31	17.15
	2. Orissa	25.77	25.50	25.87
	3. Sikkim	24.53	25.89	22.91
	4. West Bengal	17.69	19.72	17.55
	5. A&N Isls.	19.83	21.66	23.62
	6. DVC	9.61	2.30	1.99
NORTH-EASTERN REGION	1. Assam	24.10	22.66	21.41
	2. Manipur	28.02	24.43	22.35
	3. Meghalaya	11.56	11.65	11.62
	4. Nagaland	26.08	23.14	27.26
	5. Tripura	29.59	31.96	30.64
	6. Arunachal Pradesh	19.99	28.20	32.32
	7. Mizoram	29.63	34.95	29.04
ALL INDIA (UTILITIES)		22.89	22.83	21.80

NOTE : The lower T&D losses figures in respect of Meghalaya are due to bulk sale of Energy to the neighbouring States.